SUBARU Participates in Super Taikyu Series 2022 with SUBARU BRZ Race Car Using Carbon Neutral Synthetic Fuel

— Training Engineers to Lead Subaru in the Future Through Challenge in the Field of Motorsports —

Tokyo, March 18, 2022 – Subaru Corporation announces that it will participate in the ENEOS Super Taikyu Series 2022 Powered by Hankook Round.1 Suzuka 5H Race[*1] to be held on March 19 and 20, 2022, entering a Subaru BRZ race car powered by carbon neutral fuel.

Team SDA Engineering BRZ CNF Concept

Subaru's participation in the Super Taikyu Series 2022 has a meaning of a challenge to expand fuel options for using internal combustion engines. While collaborating and competing with the alliance partner Toyota, Subaru will apply agile development cycles required in the field of motorsports, repeat improvements and verifications rapidly, to train its engineers and propel "making ever-better motorsports-bred cars" initiative and move toward realization of carbon neutral society.

For the race car development, more than one hundred Subaru engineers have involved. With younger engineers at its core, a culture to go beyond the departments and take on challenges toward one common goal is being fostered in the engineering division through this project.

<Team Setup>

Team Name: Team SDA[*2] Engineering

Vehicle: Team SDA Engineering BRZ CNF Concept

Base Model: SUBARU BRZ (modified to run on carbon neutral fuel)

Class: ST-Q Class[*3]

Team Manager: Masahito Motoi (The head of Subaru R&E Center)

Chief Engineer: Genki Takeuchi (Body Design Dept.)

Drivers: Koichi Hirota (Vehicle Dynamics Performance Development Dept.), Takuto Iguchi, Hideki Yamauchi

Vehicle Overview: Team SDA Engineering BRZ CNF Concept has been built exclusively for Super Taikyu Series race based on a production Subaru BRZ and specially modified to run on carbon neutral fuel. Lead by Subaru engineers, the modification to the base model has been kept minimal to pursue how well the car can compete in the field of motorsports with an extension of the technologies accumulated through mass production vehicle engineering. The roll cage, an essential for a race car, is uniquely designed to secure a space for the EyeSight stereo camera so it is ready for a possible application to EyeSight equipped cars in the future.
The livery of the race car features the motif of blue and green flame which respectively symbolize the passion of Subaru engineers and environmental friendliness of carbon neutral fuel.

Race car fuel: The race car uses synthetic fuel produced by synthesizing sources such as carbon dioxide (CO2), hydrogen and components derived from non-edible biomasses so as to match with Japanese Industrial Standards (JIS) for motor gasoline. It is seen as one of the measures for achieving carbon neutrality as the amount of carbon dioxide emitted during combustion is regarded as neutral.
When all materials are derived from renewable energy and CO2 emitted during production and transportation process is zero, the fuel can be truly called carbon neutral fuel. Since there still is CO2 emission during production and transportation process, the fuel used at this time is not strictly carbon neutral fuel, but it is targeted for 100% carbon neutral including these processes in the future.

Team SDA Engineering BRZ CNF Concept
Fuel Supplying System

Members of Team SDA Engineering

*1: Endurance race series held in Japan. Schedule of Super Taikyu Series 2022 (Provisional) can be found on the official website of Super Taikyu Series https://supertaikyu.com/schedule-2022/

*2: Acronym for Subaru Driving Academy, a human resources development initiative to raise driving and evaluation skills of Subaru

engineers

*3: Class for manufacturer-developed racing vehicles and racing vehicles not belonging to any other category approved by Super Taikyu Organization

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